

Complete list of all pending claims:

1. (Original) A method for enabling a simple network printer to print a print job that includes raster image processor instructions, comprising the steps of:
 - receiving a broadcast from a raster image processor (RIP)-enabled unit announcing the RIP-enabled unit's capabilities;
 - storing information on the RIP-enabled unit's capabilities in the simple network printer;
 - upon receiving a RIP print job request from a source, sending by the simple network printer, notification to the RIP-enabled unit that the source has the RIP print job;
 - spooling, by the RIP-enabled unit, the RIP print job from the source;
 - rasterizing, by the RIP-enabled unit, the RIP print job into a Printer Control Language (PCL) format; and
 - sending the RIP print job in PCL format to the simple network printer for printing.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the source is one of: a workstation, a computer, a handheld computer, and a digital assistant.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the simple network printer is in a network having a wireless connection for at least one of: a source, the RIP-enabled unit, and the simple network printer.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the simple network printer is in a network that is hard-wired.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the RIP-enabled unit is one of: a laser printer having a raster image processor and a print server having a raster image processor.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein spooling, by the RIP-enabled unit, includes spooling each page separately for rasterizing and delivering in PCL format.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the print job that includes raster image processor instructions includes instructions for printing a print image file using at least one of: Postscript®, Tagged Image File Format (TIFF), Portable Document Format (PDF), Personalized Print Markup Language (PPML), and Scalable Vector Graphics (SVG).

8-24. (Claims 8-24 are canceled)

25. (Original) A simple network printer, arranged to process a print job that includes raster image processor (RIP) instructions via proxying a raster image processor-enabled unit that converts the RIP instructions and image information of the print job to a predetermined Printer Control Language (PCL) format, the simple network printer comprising:

a transceiver, intercoupled to the RIP-enabled unit and a plurality of computing units in a network that includes the simple network printer, for receiving a broadcast from the RIP-enabled unit, wherein the broadcast announces information on the RIP-enabled unit's capabilities;

wherein the transceiver, upon receiving a RIP print job request from a computing unit of the plurality of computing units, sends notification to the RIP-enabled unit that the simple network printer has received the RIP print job request and upon rasterizing, by the RIP-enabled unit, the RIP print job into a Printer Control Language (PCL) format, the transceiver receives the RIP print job in the predetermined PCL format for printing;

a storage unit, coupled to the transceiver and to a printer control unit, for storing information on the RIP-enabled unit's capabilities;

the printer control unit, coupled to the transceiver, the storage unit and a printing unit, for controlling operation of the simple network printer in accordance with a predetermined scheme; and

the printing unit, coupled to the printer control unit and the transceiver, for printing image information in accordance with the predetermined PCL format.

26. (Original) The simple network printer of claim 25 wherein the computing unit is one of: a workstation, a computer, a handheld computer, and a digital assistant.

27. (Original) The simple network printer of claim 25 wherein the RIP-enabled unit is one of: a laser printer having a raster image processor and a print server having a raster image processor.

28. (Original) The simple network printer of claim 25 wherein the RIP-enabled unit spools each page separately for rasterizing and delivering in the predetermined PCL format.

29. (Original) The simple network printer of claim 25 wherein the print job that includes raster image processor instructions includes instructions for printing a print image file using at least one of: Postscript®, Tagged Image File Format (TIFF), Portable Document Format (PDF), Personalized Print Markup Language (PPML), and Scalable Vector Graphics (SVG).

30. (Original) The simple network printer of claim 25 wherein the simple network printer is in a network having a wireless connection for at least one of: the simple network printer, a workstation, a computer, a handheld computer, a digital assistant, and the RIP-enabled unit.

31. (Original) The simple network printer of claim 25 wherein the simple network printer is in a network that is hard-wired.

32. (Original) A method for enabling a simple network printer to print a print job that includes raster image processor instructions, comprising the steps of:

receiving and storing, by the simple network printer, a broadcast from a raster image processor (RIP)-enabled unit, announcing the RIP-enabled unit's capabilities; and

upon receiving a RIP print job request from a source, requesting the RIP-enabled unit to proxy the print job and send the print job in simple format to the simple network printer for printing.

33. (Original) The method of claim 32 wherein the simple format is Printer Control Language format.

34. (Original) The method of claim 32 wherein the RIP-enabled unit is one of: a printer server and a laser printer.